Rochester N. Y.
Nov 23 1854

Dear Brethren,

In behalf of the "Judson Society for Inquiry" recently formed in this place, composed of members of the "Rochester Theological Seminary" & the "University of Rochester" for the purpose of inquiring into the moral & religious condition of the world, I write you at this time.

These Institutions & this Society have subjects connected their existence, though on the most favorable auspices & such as give promise of great & extended usefulness we have present over 80 Scholars & a full complement of classes in both Institutions.

We are desirous of making our Society a moral Observatory from which we may look over the world & survey the whole field of Christian Effort, & learn and then pray & make it a Missionary News Depot, where we may come from time to time & place ourselves in communication with the ends of the Earth, & thus cultivate among us a true Missionary Spirit, a world wide

benevolence, an intelligent piety & thus you will ~~you~~ yourselves a light to shine upon the pathway of future duty & Christian toil. We hope this society may be the instrument in the hands of God of turning the footsteps of many of us into the path of duty & of awakening & fostering in the minds of many a pious student a deep, intelligent & abiding consecration to the service of God, such a consecration as shall lead him to offer upon the altar of our common Lord & master home, country, friends, yea & his own life for the sake of Christ & the perishing heathen.

Some of our number are looking forward to the foreign missionary work as their chosen field of toil, others are inquiring "Lord what will thou have me to do" & we humbly trust & pray that God will honor this society by calling from it many who shall blow the Gospel trumpet & unfurl the Christian banner over many a benighted pagan land. We ask no higher honor, or greater delight for it, than that it may be the means of inspiring a deep & lasting interest in the missionary enterprise into the mind of all its members & that it may be represented by those who go forth from it in every destitute & dark corner of the earth.

We trust we shall be remembered by you, while at the mercy seat you plead

for the blessing of God upon your own & similar societies & upon every instrumentality for good. Let us pray that mercy seat & look on for Christ & help to swell the number of those who shall be redeemed by his blood.

We hope we shall have the pleasure of hearing from you through your Secretary & trust this is but the beginning of an acquaintance & correspondence, which shall long continue & be productive of mutual pleasure & profit.

With sincere wishes for your prosperity & happiness, in behalf of the Society

I subscribe myself

Yours &c

W. M. Richardson

Cor. Sec.

To Society for Inquiry
Princeton New Jersey